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(PCT Administrative Instructions, Section 411)

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Date of mailing (day/month/year) 21 March 2005 (21.03.2005)	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
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	Priority date (day/month/year) 24 December 2003 (24.12.2003)
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- (If applicable)* An asterisk (*) appearing next to a date of receipt, in the right-hand column, denotes a priority document submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau but not in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b) (the priority document was received after the time limit prescribed in Rule 17.1(a) or the request to prepare and transmit the priority document was submitted to the receiving Office after the applicable time limit under Rule 17.1(b)). Even though the priority document was not furnished in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b), the International Bureau will nevertheless transmit a copy of the document to the designated Offices, for their consideration. In case such a copy is not accepted by the designated Office as the priority document, Rule 17.1(c) provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.

<u>Priority date</u>	<u>Priority application No.</u>	<u>Country or regional Office or PCT receiving Office</u>	<u>Date of receipt of priority document</u>
24 December 2003 (24.12.2003)	2003-426408	JP	17 February 2005 (17.02.2005)
30 December 2003 (30.12.2003)	60/532,906	US	20 January 2005 (20.01.2005)

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INTERNATIONALSEARCHREPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/019796

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl.⁷ B23K1/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl.⁷ B23K1/00

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Published examined utility model applications of Japan 1922-1996
 Published unexamined utility model applications of Japan 1971-2005
 Registered utility model specifications of Japan 1996-2005
 Published registered utility model applications of Japan 1994-2005

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	JP 2001-1136 A (FURUKAWA ELECTRIC CORP.) 2001.01.09, claim 1-2, column 3, lines 16-28, column 6, lines 7-20, column 7, lines 36-50	1-18
Y	JP 2002-507488 A (SOLVAY FLUOR UND DERIVATE GMBH) 2002.03.12, claim 1-2, page 9, lines 12-27 & US 6432221 B1	1-18
Y	JP 61-293699 A (TOYOTA CENTRAL R&D LABS., INC.) 1986.12.24, claim 1	1-18
Y	JP 1-143794 A (CALSONIC CORP. , TARUCHIN CORP.) 1989.06.06, claim 1	2-3, 9
Y	JP 9-1384 A (NIHON GENMA CORP. , TOYO ALUMINUM	4-5, 9

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

02.05.2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

17. 5. 2005

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International application No.

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
	CORP. , FURUKAWA ELECTRIC CORP.) 1997.01.07, column 5, lines 10-19	
Y	JP 2001-138038 A (Yuichirou ASANO, Yoshikazu ISHI) 2001.05.22, column 5, lines 6-14	6-9
Y	JP 1-218795 A (MITSUBISHI ALUMINUM CORP.) 1989.08.31, claim 1	13-14
Y	JP 6-55293 A (FURUKAWA ALUMINUM CORP.) 1994.03.01, claim 1	13-14
Y	JP 6-182581 A (MITSUBISHI ALUMINUM CORP.) 1994.07.05, claim 1	13-14